STRATEGIES

COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION

Mobilizing community leaders and residents to plan, strengthen, or create new opportunities or linkages to existing organizations for ganginvolved and at-risk youth.

OPPORTUNITIES PROVISION

Providing and facilitating access to academic, economic, and social opportunities.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT

Facilitating organizational change and development to help community agencies better address gang problems through a team "problemsolving" approach that is consistent with the philosophy of community oriented policing.

SOCIAL INTERVENTION

Using outreach workers to engage gang-involved youth.

SUPPRESSION AND CONTROL

Conducting gang suppression activities and holding gang-involved youth accountable.

For More Information Contact

Celeste Wojtalewicz Director, Project BRIDGE

4102 Orange St., Riverside, CA 92501 Phone: (909) 320-8136 FAX: (909) 320-8138

Email: cwojtale@riversideca.gov

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Human Resources Dept.

3780 Market St., Riverside, CA 92501 (909) 826-5936 FAX (909) 826-5943

Regional Occupational Program

Riverside County Office of Education 3939 Thirteenth St., P.O. Box 868 Riverside, CA 92502-0868 (800) 606-4001

Department of Community Action

2038 Iowa Ave., #B-102 Riverside, CA 92507 (909) 955-4900 FAX (909) 955-6506

People Reaching Out

2060 University Ave., Rm. 102 Riverside, CA 92507 (909) 686-8946 FAX (909) 686-8528

Project BRIDGE is sponsored by OJJDP, the State of California, the City of Riverside, The District Attorney's Office, and The Community Foundation Fund.

PROJECT BRIDGE

Building Resources for the Intervention and Deterrence of Gang Engagement



A comprehensive program designed to provide youth with positive alternatives to gangs, foster healthy lifestyles, and strengthen families and communities.

PROJECT BRIDGE

HISTORY

In 1995, Project BRIDGE (Building Resources for the Intervention and Deterrence of Gang Engagement) was established through a grant from the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention, and is nationally recognized program for gang prevention, intervention, and suppression. From May 1995 to August 1998, the project was administered by the University of California, Riverside, Office of Education and Community Initiatives. In September 1998, the lead agency was transferred to the City of Riverside.

The project is the result of community collaborative efforts committed to reducing the incidence of youth gang violence. The Riverside County Juvenile Probation Department, the City of Riverside Human Resources Department, Alvord and Riverside Unified School Districts, California State University, San Bernardino, and the University of California, Riverside, Robert Presley Center for Crime and Justice are key participants.

GOALS

The goal of Project BRIDGE is to adapt, implement, and test a comprehensive program model, which will mobilize the community's multidisciplinary leadership to reduce the incidence of youth gang violence, gang membership, and gang-related activities in the city of Riverside.

SERVICES

OUTREACH

Outreach services are designed to assist youth between the ages of 12 and 22. Outreach workers provide direct services to gang-involved and at-risk youth in the City of Riverside. Outreach also works closely with families, schools, and community agencies.

PROBATION

Project probation officers make home visits, monitor case progress and court compliance, identify resources in the community to assist target youth, and provide in-service seminars on gang identification and awareness.

EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT

Job training specialists and a job developer provide job skills preparation, job training, and job placement for project youth. The services include one-on-one job coaching, basic life skills

training, finance management, resume writing workshops, cultural diversity training, and other job-related training.

EDUCATION

School intervention specialists participate in developing case plans for project youth and in identifying possible project participants.

PROJECT TRY

In collaboration with the Department of Community Action and California Youth Authority, Loma Linda University provides removal of visible gang, cult, or hate/racial tattoos to people aged 25 and under.

MENTOR PROGRAM

Student volunteers from the California Baptist University Office of Campus Ministries provide mentoring and tutorial services to project youth.

OTHER SERVICES

- Assistance in School Enrollment and Educational Support
- Individual, Group, and Family Counseling
- Alcohol and Drug Treatment
- Anger Management Classes
- Cultural Sensitivity Workshops
- Community Education
- Information and Referral
- Parent Consultation
- Conflict Resolution
- Parenting Classes